

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment claims 2, 3, 6-8 and 12-14 are amended. Claims 1, 9-11, 24 and 30-32 are cancelled. Claims 33-34 are added. Claims 2-4, 6-8, 12-23, 25-29 and 33-34 are pending.

The Applicant's representative gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended by the Examiner during the telephone conference of September 2, 2009.

As shown in Fig. 1, the Applicant's claimed invention is a vessel with a cover 9 for containing multicomponent products and mixing the components at the time they are used in order to provide a mixed end product. A basic component is contained in a receptacle 1, and an introduced component is contained in a container 3. The container 3 is located in the upper part of the receptacle 1. The Applicant's container 3 has an opening 6 which is covered by a valve 7 until the time that the components are to be mixed.

When it is time to mix the components the user can uncover the opening 6 of the container 3 by rotating the cover, to thereby cause the valve 7 to uncover the opening 6. This permits the introduced component to pass through the opening 6, and into a channel between the receptacle 1 and the container 3. The Applicant's valve can then close the opening 6, before all of the introduced component has escaped from the container 3, to prevent a remaining portion of the introduced component from passing through the opening 6, and thereby interrupt the mixing.

Significantly, the channel through which the introduced component passes as it exits the vessel is between the inner side of the receptacle 1 and the outer side of the container 3, as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

Accordingly, the Applicant's new claim 33 sets forth a vessel for multicomponent products including a receptacle for a basic component, a cover in a detachable connection with the receptacle, and a container for an introduced component. The container is located in an

upper part of the receptacle, wherein the vessel has at least one channel for outputting an end product. The channel is located between the inner side of the receptacle and the outside of the container. There is at least one opening in the container. A valve closes the opening of the container, wherein the container and the valve are slidably connected such that either the container or the valve or both can move along guide members and wherein the cover can interact with the container or the valve.

Kachur teaches a two-compartment container for separate storage of two ingredients, and eventual mixing of the two ingredients. In Kachur, a tubular capsule is slidably mounted within a tubular sleeve to move between upper and lower positions. In the lower position the contents of a capsule (the introduced component in the region defined by the wall 11) are separated from the contents of a bottle (the basic component). Kachur teaches moving the capsule to its upper position to cause the contents of the capsule to fall from the region defined by the wall 11 into the bottle.

Furthermore, in order to permit the mixed components to escape from the container, the dome 25 is removed from the disk 22 by breaking the frangible ring 26, to create an opening through the disk 22. The mixed component exits by way of the region defined by the wall 11 and the resulting opening in the disk 22. The exit channel thus formed in Kachur is through the region defined by the wall 11, not between the inner side of the receptacle and the outside of the container, as required by new claim 33.

Silver also lacks this important feature of the Applicant's invention as recited in claim 33. When the component in the upper compartment 10 of Silver passes through the lower end 14 of the upper compartment 10 (see Fig. 1, Col. 6, lines 27-30 of Kachur), it mixes with the component in the lower mixing compartment 2. In order to permit the mixture to escape from the interior of the compartment 10 after mixing, the closure 3 is unscrewed from the lower compartment 2 (See Col. 10, lines 9-10 of Kachur). Thus, the escape channel disclosed by Silver is not between the inner side of the receptacle and the outside of the container, as required by

new claim 33.

Claim 33 is thus believed to be patentable over the cited references and allowance is solicited. Additionally, the remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from claim 33, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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